

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Listing of the claims:

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which listing supersedes all previously presented claims:

Claims 1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, the data structure comprising:

a record information area having record information, a first identifying information area having first identifying information, and a second identifying information area having second identifying information on the recording medium,

wherein the record information includes 1) a plurality of first recording units, 2) one or more second recording units each of which contains one or more of the first recording units and 3) one or more third recording units each of which consists of one or more of the first recording units,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more second recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding second recording unit is allowed,

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit is allowed, and

wherein each of the first identifying information and the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is allowed to be erased or edited by the information recording system.

10. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 9, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding second recording unit is in a logically erased state.

11. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 9, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

12. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, the data structure comprising:

a record information area having record information, a first identifying information area having first identifying information, and a second identifying information area having second identifying information on the recording medium,

wherein the record information includes one or more recording units and one or more third recording units which can be set by a user,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding recording unit is allowed, and

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit is allowed, and

wherein each of the first identifying information and the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is allowed to be erased or edited by the information recording system.

13. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 12, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is in a logically erased state.

14. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 12, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

15. (Previously Presented) An information recording method comprising the steps of:

recording record information on a recording medium;

recording first identifying information on the recording medium;

and recording second identifying information on the recording medium;

wherein the record information includes 1) a plurality of first recording units, 2) one or more second recording units each of which contains one or more of the first

recording units and 3) one or more third recording units each of which consists of one or more of the first recording units,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more second recording units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding second recording unit,

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third recording units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit.

16. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 15, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding second recording unit is in a logically erased state.

17. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 15, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

18. (Previously Presented) An information recording method comprising the steps of:

recording record information on a recording medium;

recording first identifying information on the recording medium;

and recording second identifying information on the recording medium;

wherein the record information includes one or more recording units and one or more third recording units which can be set by a user,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more recording units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding recording unit, and

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third recording units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit.

19. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 18, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is in a logically erased state.

20. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 18, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

21. (Currently Amended) An information recording medium encoded with a data structure; wherein the data structure comprises:

record information including 1) a plurality of first recording units, 2) one or more second recording units each of which contains one or more the first recording units and 3) one or more third recording units each of which consists of one or more the first recording units,

first identifying information corresponding to each of the one or more second recording units and ~~preventing~~ indicating whether erasing or editing of a corresponding second recording unit is allowed,

second identifying information corresponding to each of the one or more third recording units and ~~preventing~~ indicating whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit is allowed, and

wherein each of the first identifying information and the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is allowed to be erased or edited by the information recording system.

22. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 21, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding second recording unit is in a logically erased state.

23. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 21, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

24. (Currently Amended) An information recording computer readable medium encoded with a data structure, wherein the data structure comprises:

record information, first identifying information and second identifying information;  
wherein the record information includes one or more recording units and one or more third recording units which can be set by a user,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding recording unit is allowed, and

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third recording units and ~~prevents~~ indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit is allowed, and

wherein each of the first identifying information and the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is allowed to be erased or edited by the information recording system.

25. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 24, wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding recording unit is in a logically erased state.

26. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 24, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third recording unit is to be protected.

27. (Previously Presented) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, comprising:

means for recording record information of the data structure on a recording medium, the record information including (1) one or more first recording units, (2) one or more second recording units, each of which contains one or more of the first recording

units, and (3) one or more third recording units, each of which contains one or more of the first recording units;

means for recording first identifying information on the recording medium, the first identifying information being related to each of the first recording units and including a first data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding first recording unit; and

means for recording second identifying information on the recording medium, the second identifying information being related to each of the third recording units and including a second data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third recording unit.

28. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 27, wherein the first data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding first recording unit and the second data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding third recording unit.

29. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 27, wherein the first data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding first recording unit and the second data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding third recording unit.

30. (Previously Presented) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, comprising:

means for recording record information of the data structure on a recording medium, the record information including one or more first recording units and one or more second recording units, each of which can be set by a user;

means for recording first identifying information on the recording medium, the first identifying information being related to each of the first recording units and including a first data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding first recording unit; and

means for recording second identifying information on the recording medium, the second identifying information being related to each of the second recording units and including a second data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding second recording unit.

31. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 30, wherein the first data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding first recording unit and the second data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding second recording unit.

32. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 30, wherein the first data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding first recording unit and the second data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding second recording unit.